turn10

MY TURN.
DRAW.
I'LL PUT ONE CARD FACE DOWN.
AND END TURN.
AND SEARCH FOR A "KIRIN."
YOUR TURN.
DRAW.
I'LL PLAY "PILLARS OF DESTINY,"
DRAW.
I'LL SUMMON A "KIRIN,"
AND END MY TURN.
AT END OF YOUR TURN I'LL PLAY "DIVINE GIFT,"
TO DRAW TWO CARDS.
DRAW.
I'LL PUT ONE CARD FACE DOWN.
AND END TURN.

SHE MUST HAVE SWITCHED UP HER STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD GAME, JUST LIKE SHE DID YESTERDAY!
I CAN'T IMAGINE MANAKA JUST LETTING THIS BE A REPEAT OF THE LAST GAME.
...
whisper
YUP.
IT'S PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS GAME TWO SO FAR.
whisper
I'll play a "wall of anemone."
Then put a card face down.
And end turn.
Qi Men Dun Jia
[Additional Cost. 1000 LP]
Look at the top ten cards of your library, then put them back in any order.
REARRANGE THE TOP TEN CARDS OF MY DECK,
AND PASS THE TURN.
I'LL CAST "QI MEN DUN JIA."
SHE SWITCHED OVER TO THE MILL STRAT...
I KNEW IT...
WHICH ALSO LETS HER DISRUPT SOME OF ROMAN'S COMBO FIXING.
what a boss
grin
DRAW.
I'LL PLAY "FUNERAL CHANT."
PUT THE TOP FIVE CARDS OF YOUR LIBRARY INTO YOUR GRAVEYARD.
Funeral Chant
Target player puts the top five cards of their library into their graveyard.
!

WOAH!
WERE ALL FIVE CARDS SHE MILLED HOLY BEASTS? DANG.
SURE LOOKS LIKE IT.
!
I'LL CAST,
"CELESTIAL REBIRTH."
My turn.
NOW WHAT?
THAT PUTS HER IN A ROUGH SPOT.
YEAH, REARRANGING THE TOP OF HER DECK REALLY CAME BACK TO BITE HER.
draw.
IT LETS ME RETURN ALL HOLY BEASTS IN MY GRAVEYARD TO MY HAND.
Celestial Rebirth
1
Sorcery
Return all Holy Beast creature cards and all cards whose name includes "Golden Dragon" from your graveyard to your hand.
WHAT A PERFECT SILVER BULLET!
GLAD I STUCK ONE IN JUST IN CASE.
Silver Bullet
A card that's particularly effective against a very specific card or tactic.
The term comes from the fact that silver bullets were said to be effective against certain nonhuman monsters, like werewolves or demons.

TODAY MUST BE MY LUCKY DAY!
AND HOW LUCKY WAS IT THAT I DREW INTO IT AT THE PERFECT TIME!
Smile
Smile
WHY IS SHE EVEN RUNNING THAT CARD?
whisper
I DUNNO,
BUT I'VE SEEN HER RUN IT IN OTHER DECKS BEFORE, TOO.
whisper
THEN I'LL SUMMON "GENBU, WINTER EMPEROR OF THE NORTH."
IT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD I GUESS, BUT... MAN I DON'T THINK I COULD EVER BRING MYSELF TO RUN THAT DECK.
jeez
AND END MY TURN.

I'LL PLAY A "WALL OF MINT."
END TURN
MY TURN.
DRAW
EITHER THAT,
OR SHE JUST REALLY WANTS TO WIN WITH THE FLASHY COMBO.
PROBABLY SO THE OTHER GIRL CAN'T CHUMP BLOCK AND BUILD UP ANY SOUL CRYSTALS.
SO, WHAT I DON'T GET IS WHY ROMAN ISN'T ATTACKING WITH ANY OF HER CREATURES.

AND THERE'S STILL A CHANCE TO DECK HER BEFORE THE COMBO GOES OFF.
Getting "Decked"
When you would be forced to draw a card, but cannot because you have zero cards left in your deck, you lose the game.

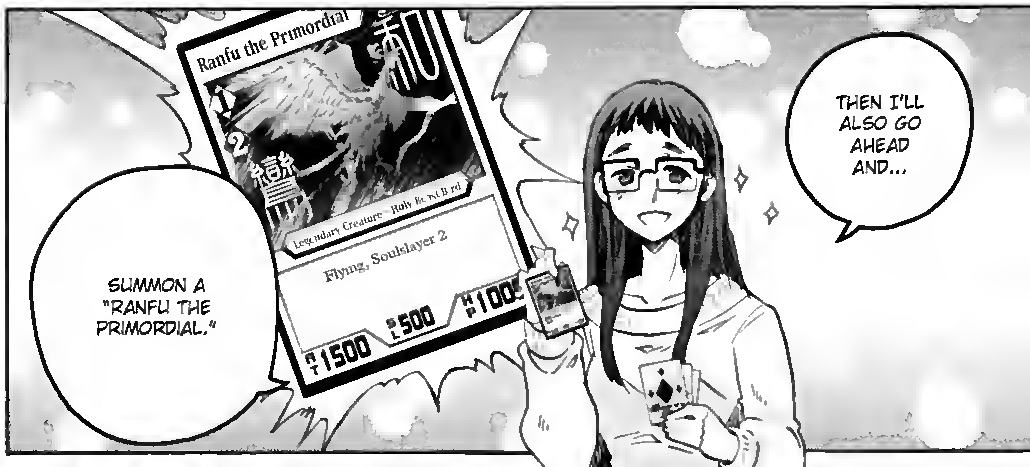
AND ACTUALLY, BACKFIRED AND ACCELERATED THE COMBO...
THE MILLING THERE DIDN'T WORK OUT...
SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HIT SOME OF THE OTHER COMBO PIECES...
BUT IF SHE CAN KEEP IT UP,

IS STILL IN THE GAME HERE.
SO MANAKA...

SURE.
PUT THE TOP FIVE CARDS OF YOUR DECK INTO YOUR GRAVEYARD
I'LL PLAY "FUNERAL CHANT."
fush

Elixer of Immortality
1
1
Instant
Shuffle up to two target cards from your graveyard into your library, then draw a card.
If Immortality is sent directly from your library, your graveyard into your library
THIS "ELIXER OF IMMORTALITY" WAS SENT DIRECTLY FROM MY LIBRARY TO MY GRAVEYARD, SO...
I GET TO SHUFFLE MY ENTIRE GRAVEYARD BACK INTO MY DECK.
...OH!
WHA-
THE ODDS OF BEING ABLE TO DECK HER BEFORE SHE GOES OFF ARE BASICALLY ZERO NOW!
WHY IS SHE EVEN RUNNING SOMETHING LIKE THAT!?
WHAT THE HECK?

ANOTHER "QI MEN DUN JIA," AND REARRANGE THE TOP TEN CARDS OF MY LIBRARY AGAIN.
I'LL CAST...
MY TURN, DRAW.
...END TURN.


Ranfu the Primordial
Legendary Creature
Flying, Soulslayer 2
SUMMON A "RANFU THE PRIMORDIAL."
THEN I'LL ALSO GO AHEAD AND...

WHICH MEANS SHE MUST HAVE SOME SORT OF PATH TO VICTORY LEFT...
BUT MANAKA HASN'T SCOOPED YET...

SO, SHE HAS A COUNTER FOR MY "HADES' PLUNDER" CREATURE-STEALING STRATEGY TOO...
SHE EVEN PUT IN A CREATURE THAT CAN DESTROY SOUL CRYSTALS...

NOW ALL THAT'S LEFT IS CASTING GOLDEN DRAGON AND I WIN.
BUT...
IF SHE DRAWS INTO THAT RESET I GAVE HER...
OF COURSE!
Holy War
Sorcery
Destroy all creatures
AH!
IT'S LIKELY SHE HAS COUNTERS, OR WORST CASE EVEN SOME MASS REMOVAL.
AND ALL THOSE FACE DOWN CARDS...
BETWEEN THAT FULL HAND,
I PUT "TRANQUIL GROVE" ON TOP.
Tranquil Grove
Enchantment
Tranquil Grove can't be countered by spells and abilities.
Other players can't cast spells or activate abilities during your turn.
...BUT THAT'S WHY, WHEN I REARRANGED MY TOP TEN CARDS,

AND PULL OFF A ROMAN-STYLE VICTORY!
WHICH GIVES ME MY OPENING TO CAST "GOLDEN DRAGON"...
yes!
ROMANTIC WIN!

SO I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT COUNTERS OR REMOVAL SPELLS.
Tranquil Grove
WITH "TRANQUIL GROVE" OUT, SHE CAN'T CAST ANYTHING ON MY TURN,
Enchantment
Tranquil Grove can't be countered by spells and abilities.
Other players can't cast spells or activate abilities during your turn

Sorcery
Destroy all creatures
THERE IT IS!

DRAW.
MY TURN.

SHE CAN STILL WIN THIS!
IT ISN'T OVER YET!

SHE REALLY DID IT! SHE TOP DECKED THE RESET BUTTON!
Top Deck
Drawing into a card that will allow you to turn the tables in a difficult situation.

...HM?
WHICH CREATES A COPY OF EACH OF YOUR CREATURES.
Instant
I'LL PLAY, "MATERIALIZE DREAMS."
SO... SHE'S HOPING TO BUY SOME EXTRA TIME THAT WAY?
THAT WILL GIVE HER BLOCKERS FOR A TURN,
I SEE.
WHY ISN'T SHE CASTING THE RESET?
AND DISCARD A SORCERY CARD IN ORDER TO CAST IT.
WHICH REQUIRES I PAY 2500 LIFE.
Seafoam Goddess' Allure
Sorcery
I'LL CAST "SEAFOAM GODDESS' ALLURE."
THEN,

SHE... TOSSED IT?
THEN THE EFFECT OF "SEAFOAM GODDESS' ALLURE,"
LETS ME LOOK AT YOUR HAND,
AND PLAY ONE CARD FROM IT WITHOUT PAYING ITS CASTING COST.
UH,
HUH?
UH
OH
AND I CHOOSE TO CAST
"THE GOLDEN DRAGON
DESCENDS."

JUST WIN BY STEALING ROMAN'S COMBO...?
SHE REALLY... DID...

FOR THE GAME.
THANK YOU...
GOOD GAME.
THAT'S...

しょぼん...
GLOOM...
しょぼん...
GLOOM...
しょぼん...
GLOOM...
しょぼん...
GLOOM...
BOW
EXCUSE ME.
OH...
S-SURE!
...

...
...AH.

CONGRATS ON THE WIN.

REALLY ARE AMAZING.
YOU...

I WILL.
AND WIN THE NEXT ONE TOO.
KEEP IT UP,

Wizard's Soul

Taking a look at an old Roman Deck

Part of our Past Articles series

Played under season rules: PA2013 **Deck Name:** Pangu Revival Combo **Player Name:** Aki Asahara

12 Creatures	24 MC
4 Pangu, Primeval Lord	1 RMC
	1 BMC
1 Blue Dragon Emperor	1 UMC
1 Red Dragon Emperor	1 WMC
1 White Dragon Emperor	1 OMC
1 Black Dragon Emperor	1 GMC
4 Heavenly Companion	
	3 Underground River
24 Spells	3 Progenitor's River
	1 Wetlands
4 Master's Reckoning	3 Ferry's Crossing
4 Bewildering Designation	2 Forbidden City
4 Underhanded Dealings	2 Remote Fortress
4 Qi Men Dun Jia	3 Border Castle
4 Pillars of Destiny	
4 Divination Stick	

Limited
Pangu, Primeval Lord
Legendary Creature — Creator God
When Pangu, Primeval Lord is put into your graveyard from play, search your library for any number of Dragon Emperor creature cards and put them into play under your control.
T 8500
L 2500
P 8500

"Pangu, Primeval Lord" is a powerful creature that allows you to search for, and put into play, his descendents even after he's been defeated himself. But he carries a hefty price tag, with a converted cost of a whopping 14. A typical deck would have trouble getting him out over the course of a standard length game—which is why this deck brings in "Master's Reckoning" and "Underhanded Dealings" to cheat its way around having to pay his cost in full.

Of course, both require guessing the top card of your opponent's deck to be effective, so 4 copies each of "Heavenly Companion," "Bewildering Designation," and "Divination Stick" are included to make sure you have the information necessary to turn that guess into a statement.

But...

It turned out the meta this time just wasn't a favorable one for Asahara's choice of deck. The deck to beat this tournament was angels, a deck based around "Fitch, Guardian Angel of Choices." And with so many Fitchs around, it was easy for people to shuffle their deck in response to those guessing spells, so she ended up having to rely on luck and gut feelings to name the top card most times.

And so Asahara ended this event at 183rd place. Here's to hoping she can make a comeback at the next Grand prix and blow us away with another of her trademark unique combo decks.

ON THE SLEEVE FOR VOLUME TWO
Woah really?
Hey, A present arrived for you from the editor-in-chief
EDITOR T
Who's that?
He's a famous pro player for a certain card game. so cool!
Wow! The player card for Nakashu!!
(seriously thank you for this)
..Well, I guess it couldn't hurt to ask, so sure why not?
Why don't we ask if he'd be willing to give a quote to put on the volume sleeve thing?
Well, if that's a real person,
Yeah, impressive, isn't it?
Huh! So there are professional players even, wow
If that's what he actually says though, we actually couldn't use it.
He agreed to do it.
But when I said even something like "I haven't read it, but I guess it's probably good?" would be fine,
He seemed unsure.
Ha Ha Ha
Woo hoo!
Would you be willing to give a quote for WS volume 2?
A
I'm not sure I'm the best person for it but
N
on Twitter

I'm excited to see how it ends up

Credits:

Artist & Author: Aki★Eda

Notes:

Screw the "gloom," that was a hype af way to win imo.

"Fixing," used here as "combo fixing" but IRL mostly used as "mana fixing" I think, basically means playing cards that help you get the resources you need, when you need them. The specific example here is Roman rearranging the cards in her deck to ensure she draws the cards she needs, in the order that she needs them.

It seems to me like that "get all of your Holy Beasts back into your hand" card is actually good in a variety of situations in a deck that runs Holy Beasts, so I'm not so sure I would call it a "silver bullet." Maybe if it was limited to ones that went to the graveyard this turn? That would make it a lot more niche, especially since it's a sorcery and couldn't be cast on an your opponent's turn after cast some board wipe.
Or maybe I'm just bad at card games, that's very possible.

A Ranfu is a mythical creature, the essence of a divine spirit in the form of a bird. Possibly based on reports of the Resplendent Quetzal, a real bird found in parts of Mexico and Central America.
I think, there wasn't a whole lot of info about them on the web.

I feel like the Materialize Dreams card has come up before, but I cannot find it for the life of me so apologies if there is discrepancy in the translation with the last time it came up.

"Seafoam Goddess" is a reference to Aphrodite, who is sometimes referred to as the "Foam/Bubble Goddess" in Japanese, since she was born from sea foam.

Pangu is a figure in a Chinese creation myth, a giant who split earth (yin) from sky (yang). He then died and his body formed the lay of the land. In other versions, that are not so much creation myths, he has four children that are the red/blue/black/white dragon emperors, who each ruled over one of the four seasons. Then there was a fifth child, the yellow dragon emperor, who didn't get any domain at first, and had to wage war against the other four to get a cut.
There seem to be lots of different variations, but you can see parallels to the "Holy Beasts" in many of them (see notes for last chapter for information about the Holy Beasts).

Almost all of the "land" (material) cards in that decklist are references to locations/things in China.

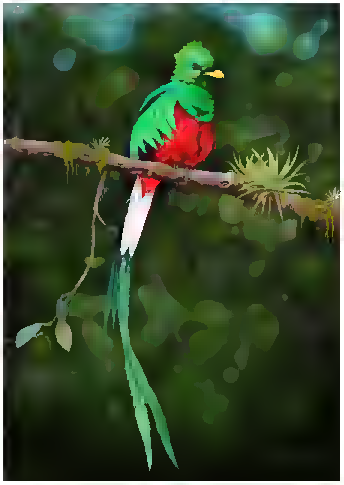
3 Underground River	-	Kuye River
3 Progenitor's River	-	Zuli River
1 Wetlands	-	Huangshui River (all 3 of these feed into the Yellow River)
3 Ferry's Crossing	-	Pudu River
2 Forbidden City	-	Duh
2 Remote Fortress	-	Badaling (a popular part of the Great Wall of Chine to visit)
3 Border Castle	-	the Great Wall itself

Yes, I realize there are only 23 lands (er, materials) on that list, not 24 like it says. Blame Editor T.
(unless it's an intentional reference to something, lunno)

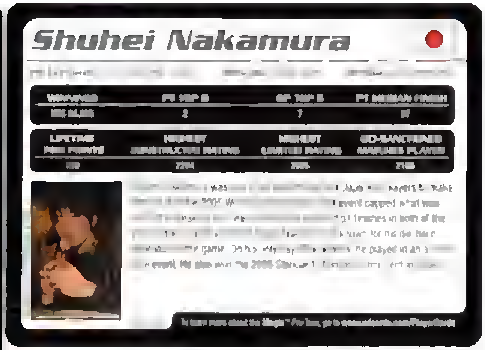
MTG has printed "pro player" cards that have pictures of and some facts about professional MTG players. "Nakashu" is Shuhei Nakamura, a professional player from Japan.

The "sleeve" thing is a little piece of paper that goes around the bottom ~1/4 of a book, tucking into the front and back covers, of newly on-sale books in Japan. It usually has some sort of text trying to catch your eye and get you to buy the book.
The Japanese name for it is "obi" (帯) the word for the belt/sash thing used when wearing kimono and such.

Resplendent Quetzal



The green thing is the "obi."
Nakamura's comment seems to have been something like
"All the pros I know are reading it!"



The pro player card in question.
Couldn't find a better resolution version, sorry

Example of an actual obi

Oh look, Futomin won her match 2-0! GJ.